

Public Safety and Health & Environmental Justice Study Session



Planning Commission
July 3, 2024



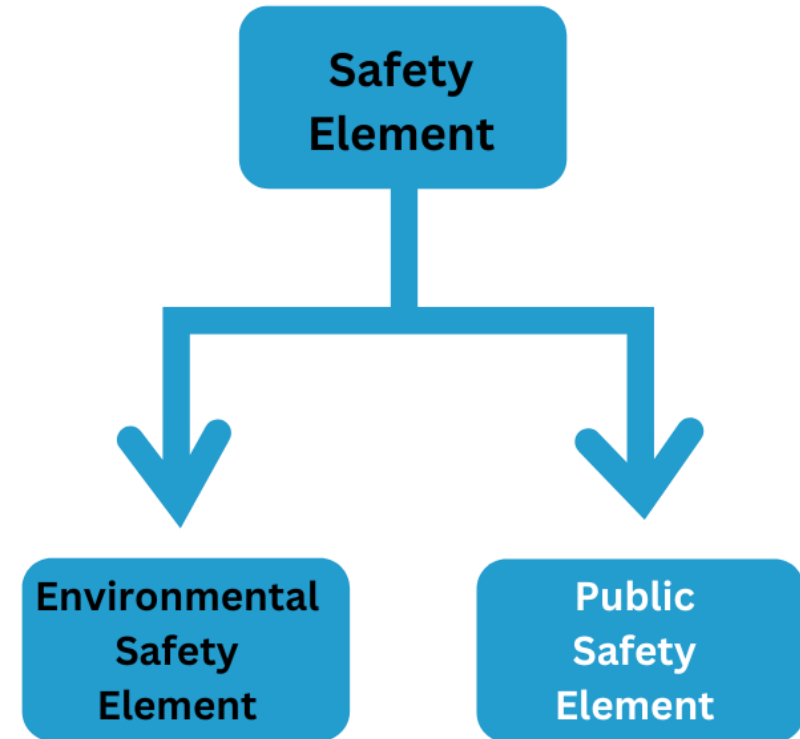
Study session purpose

- Give the Planning Commission an opportunity to shape draft policy
- Share update on PS and HEJ engagement
- PS and HEJ are closely related as topics and in state law



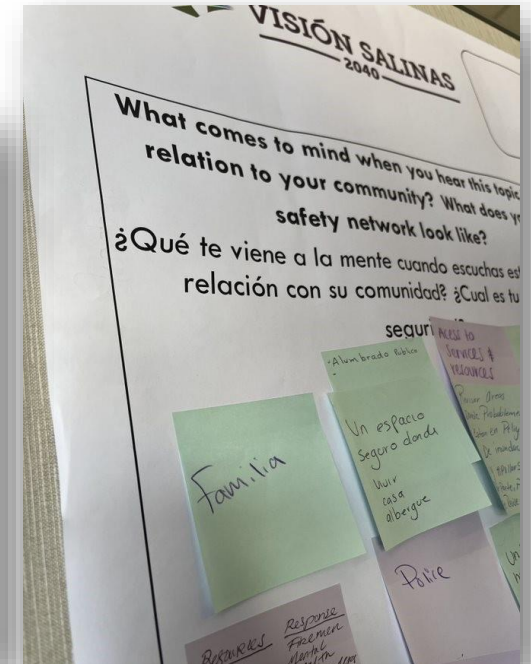
Public Safety Element Structure

- The previous General Plan held the concept of safety as a broader concept which included safety from natural and human made hazards and how to mitigate and address them.



Public Safety Engagement

- 4,500+ residents engaged
- Engagement sources:
 - (2) Community Workshops
 - (4) Pop-up Activities
 - Youth Survey
 - Budget Survey



Feedback

- Pop-up Activity:

- (1) More lighting in streets and public spaces, (2) Pedestrian traffic safety, and (3) Youth programming and services

- Youth Survey:

- More lighting on the streets and in public places, more police/fire services, programs and services for youth

- General Recurring Themes:

- More community engagement, communication w/ underserved communities.
- Programs for youth, safety trainings
- Mental health support, mobile crisis unit

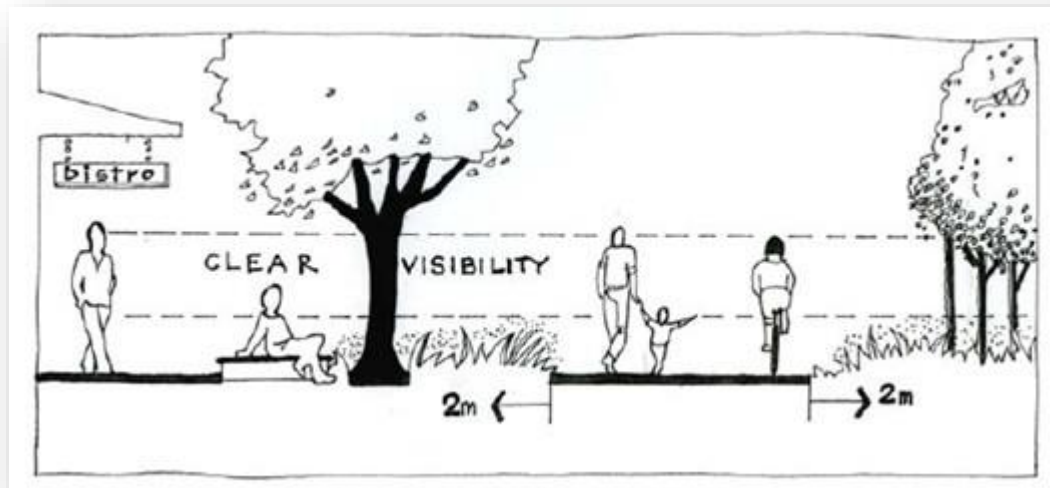


Public Safety Policies

- **PS Goal 1: Continue to play a central role in the creation and maintenance of a community that resolves its problems in non-violent ways.**
 - Improve community safety through civic engagement and relationship building.
 - Implement alternative policing methods.
- **PS Goal 2: Provide effective and responsive police and fire services to ensure a safe and vibrant community.**
 - Ensure residents have effective and responsive emergency services.
 - Improve facilities and access to equipment and technology.
 - Foster collaboration with other departments, outside agencies/organizations to improve community reach.
 - Provide a range of services to support community education and non-emergency situations.

Public Safety Policies

- PS Goal 3: Create a safer community through the use of design techniques for existing spaces, new developments and reuse/revitalization projects.
 - Promote the use of Crime Prevention through Environmental Design techniques and strategies.
 - Cultivate a safe and clean neighborhood environment.



Activities that get people outside increase eyes on the street.

'EYES ON THE STREET'

Health and EJ Background

- First HEJ Element for the City of Salinas
- The (Health) Environmental Justice Element is the result of Senate Bill 1000
- What is Environmental Justice?
 - The fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. (*CalEPA*)



Health and EJ Background

- **SB 1000 Policy Objectives**



Health and EJ Background

- Policies must address:



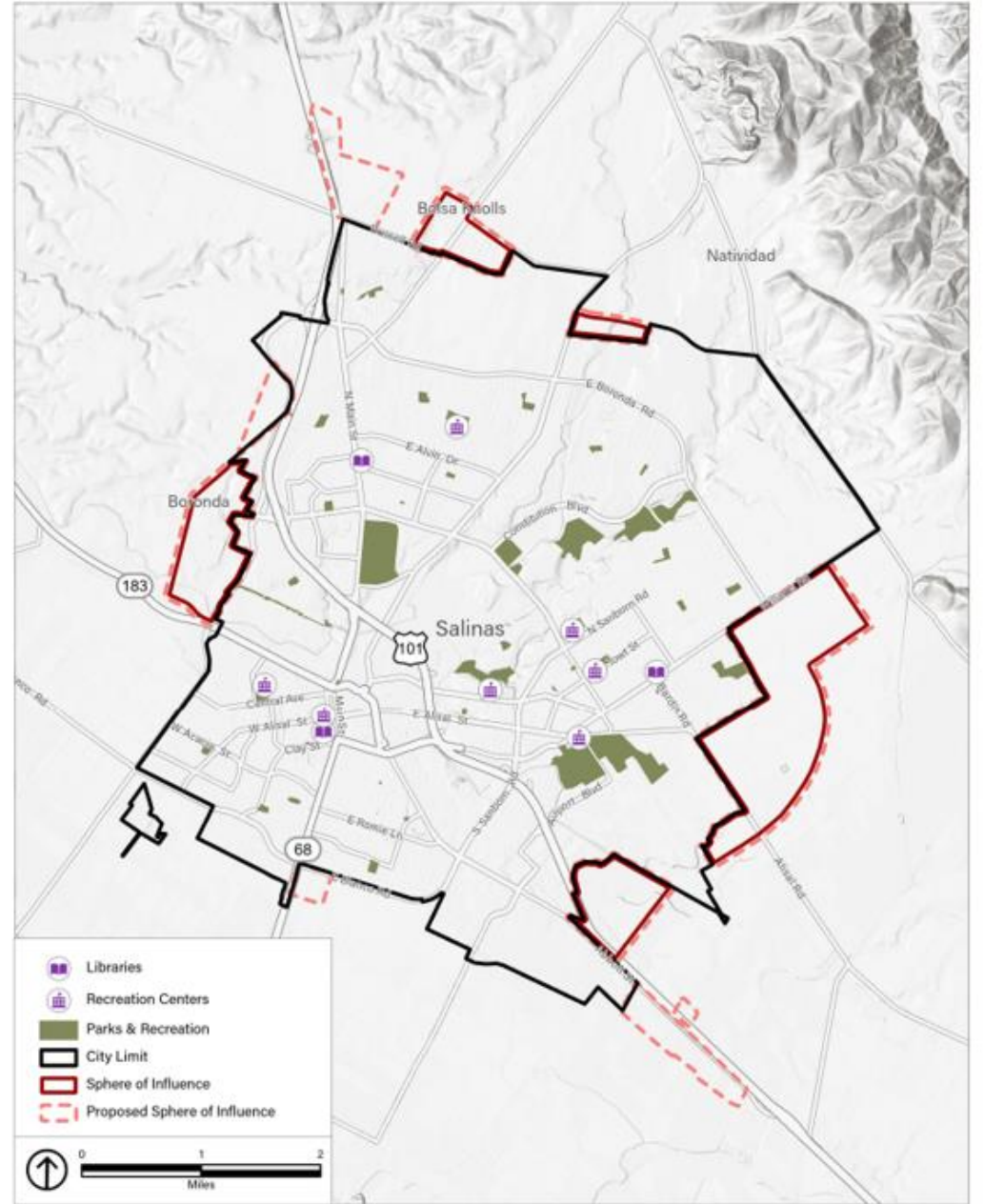
Health and EJ Engagement

- 1,900 residents engaged in total
- 540 residents reached at
 - 2 Workshops, one English and one Spanish
 - 6 Pop-up Activities
 - Focus groups/Presentations
- Top three areas of concern:
 1. Health care access
 2. Access to safe/healthy housing
 3. Access to healthy food and grocery stores



Health and Environmental Justice Recurring Themes

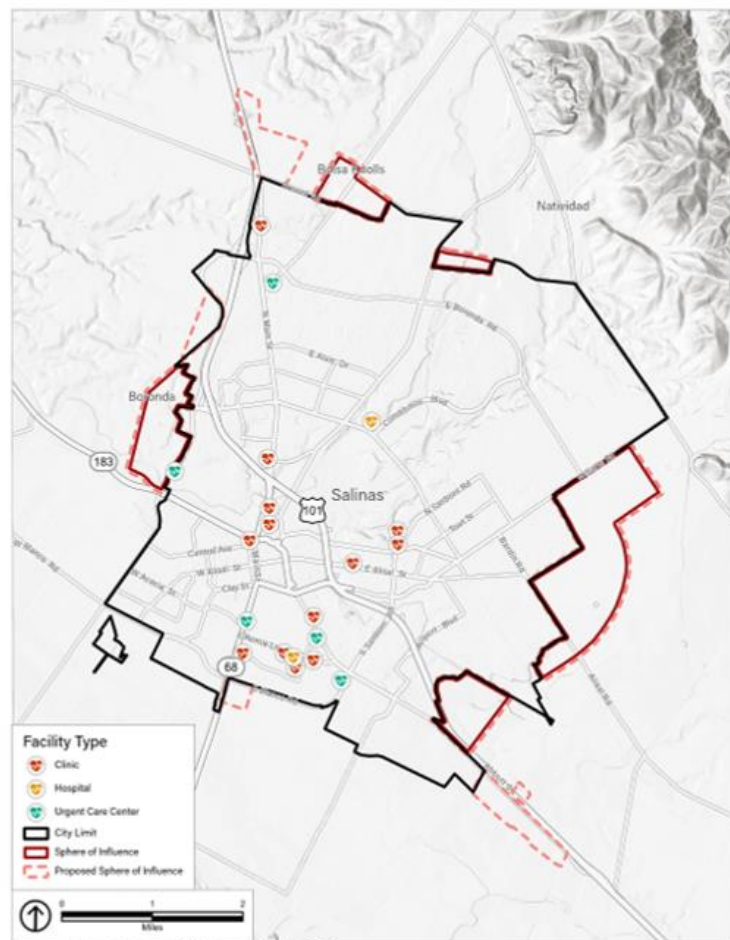
- More open/public space
- Unsafe housing
- Water quality, creek restoration
- Lack of green space
- Pesticide exposure
- A safe walkable/bikeable community



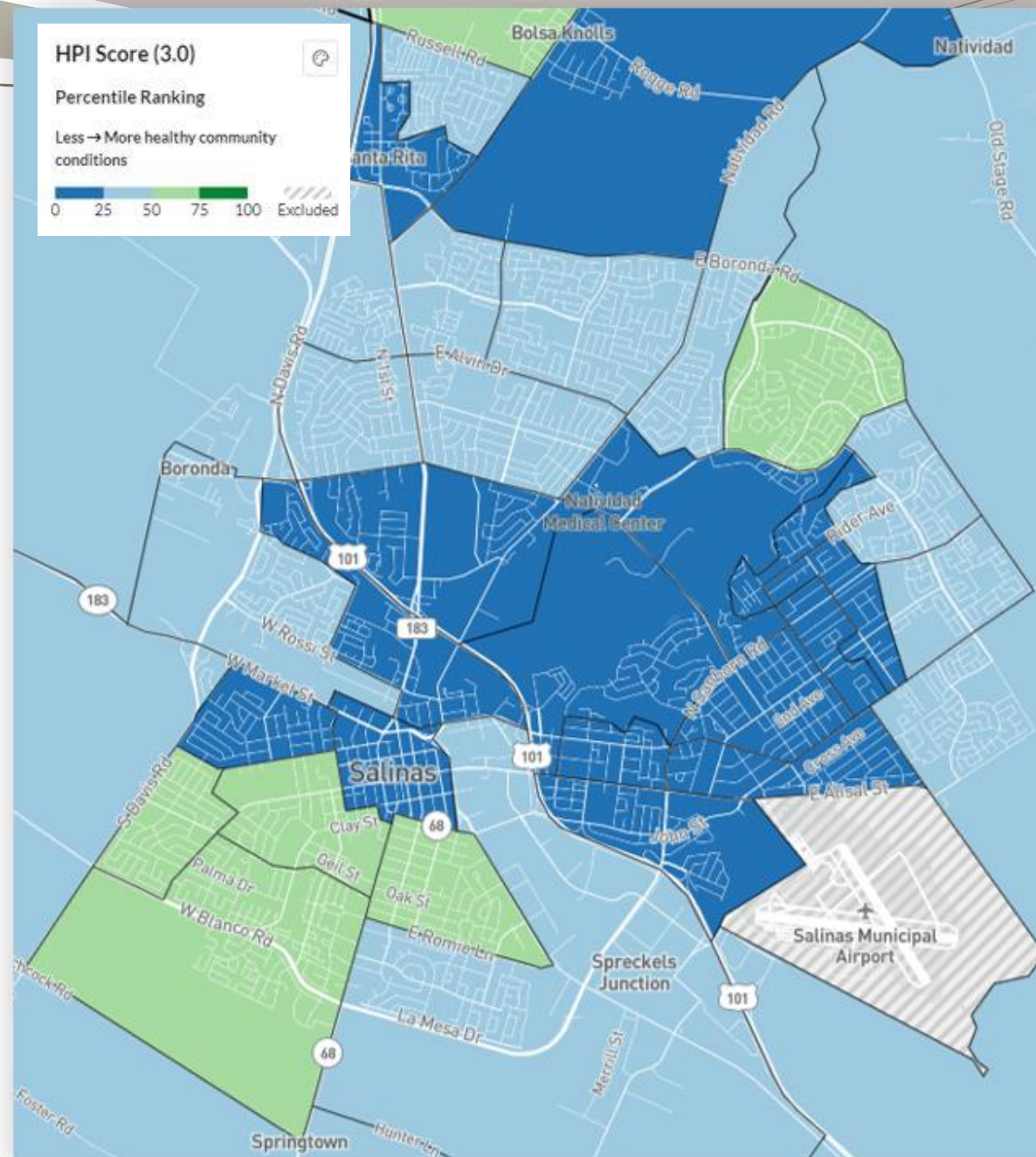
Source: City of Salinas, 2021; PlaceWorks, 2022.

Recurring Themes

Medical Facilities



Source: City of Salinas, 2021; PlaceWorks, 2022.



Health and EJ Draft Policies

HEJ Goal 1: Improve the quality of the built and natural environments to support healthy lifestyles & reduce health inequities.

- Improve the built environment through land use policies and programs.
- Ensure that sensitive land uses are not negatively impacted by hazardous materials.

HEJ Goal 2: Provide and maintain a range of community services, programs, and institutional facilities to equitably meet the needs of the community.

- Expand access to high quality childcare.
- Provide resources for seniors, persons with diverse abilities and other vulnerable populations.
- Strengthen the capacity and sustainability of community-based organizations (CBOs).

Health and EJ Draft Policies

HEJ Goal 3: Ensure all Salinas' residents have access to purchase and grow healthy, affordable, and culturally diverse relevant foods.

- Reduce food insecurity and promote healthier eating habits through community programs and education.

HEJ Goal 4: Ensure safe and sanitary homes.

- Work to eliminate health risks associated with lead-based paint, mold and other contaminants.

HEJ Goal 5: Promote spaces for physical activity.

- Create and maintain safe and accessible spaces to encourage physical activity.
- Provide resources for youth and seniors to engage in safe physical activity.

Health and EJ Draft Policies

HEJ Goal 6: Encourage Robust Civic Engagement and the Development of Resident Leaders Committed to Shaping the City's Future.

- Create a welcoming environment for community engagement.
- Build resident leadership.

HEJ Goal 7: Improve existing and create new programs that address the needs of disadvantaged communities.

- Continue to provide services to stabilize unhoused population.
- Reduce disparities among different race/ethnicities, income levels and LGBTQ+ communities.

2024 Upcoming Engagement and Review

- General Plan Open House and Climate Action Plan Webinar in Summer/Fall 2024
- City Council and Planning Commission study sessions
- Draft General Plan early summer, draft EIR and CAP late summer





Questions & Comments